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TOPOGRAPHY
OF THE
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI,

UPON A

NEW PLAN

BY

HENRY VOSE.

NATCHEZ:

AMERICAN STANDARD & MISSISSIPPI WHIG.

1835

VOSE'S

SOUTHWESTERN ALMANAC,

FOR 1836,

Will be issued early in the season. Owing to the favorable reception his Almanacs for 1834 and 1835 have met with, an edition of about 30,000 of his Southwestern Almanac will be printed, and as it will be found at every place where there is a post office, in Alabama, Arkansaw; Florida, Louisiana and Mississippi, merchants, and others, who may wish to advertise, will find it to their advantage to use its columns.

The cost of advertising will be \$5 00 per square of five lines or less, and \$1 for each additional line of this size. Gentlemen will please send their advertisements, directed to the undersigned, by the 30th of June.

The Southwestern Almanac will, besides other useful matters, contain a list of the post offices in the states and territories named. Extra orders are requested. Price per gross, \$12 00; per thousand, \$70 00.

HENRY VOSE.



Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1835,
BY HENRY VOSE,
In the office of the District Court of the District of Mississippi:

Tr. R.

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TOPOGRAPHY

OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

Names printed in **SMALL CAPITALS** are those of County Seats. Those followed by letter p. are names of Post Offices. Those printed in *Italic* are names of Post Offices now continued. The greater the first number after any place, the further it is north. The less it is, the further south. The greater the second number, the further the place is west. The less it is, the further east. If you set the numbers of any two places under each other, then subtract, you will have two remainders; the *first* shows the number of miles one place is north or south of the other; and the *second* shows how many miles one is west or east the other. The shortest distance between them is found by rules hereafter given.

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Lloyd's Mills, Copiah,		Nicholson's, Copiah.			
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Lesaskuna, mouth, Yalobusha	8510, 3604	Nunniwoya Mound, Neshoba.			
M					
MACON, Noxubbee, p.	8494, 3515	O			
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Manchester, Yazoo, p.	8477, 3632	Ocoha Bridge, Covington, p.			
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TOPOGRAPHICAL NUMBERS.

OF VARIOUS PLACES IN THE UNITED STATES.

Those places, of which the names are printed in **SMALL CAPITALS**, are the seats of government for their respective states.

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Auburn, N. Y.	9169,2848	
Augusta, Ga.	8519,3114	
AUGUSTA, Me.	9268,2390	
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Bangor, Me.	9303,2327	
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Beaufort, S. C.	8447,3041	
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		94, 15, Macon.
		8493,3616, Black Creek.
		93,3570 Atala C. P.

- 8487, 3670, Princeton.
 86, 67, Bunche's.
 86, 24, Philip's Bend.
 78, 3596, Bole's Ferry.
 77, 3632, Manchester,
 76, 22, Benton.
 69, 3570, Leake, C. H.
 69, 3478, De Kalb.
 66, 3629, O'Neal's Creek.
 66, 3609, Moore's Bluff.
 65, 29, Liverpool.
 63, 3594, Doak's Stand.
 62, 3605, Canton.
 61, 3631, Satartia.
 61, 3614, Beatie's Bluffs.
 60, 3503, Shukanutcha Creek.
 58, 3617, Vernon.
 58, 3546, Neshoba C. H.
 55, 3602, Madisonville,
 53, 13, Livingston.
 51, 3650, Prattsburg.
 50, 17, Mount Olympus.
 48, 3670, Papaw Island.
 48, 61, Mouth of Yazoo.
 48, 24, Spring Hill.
 46, 08, Meridian Springs.
 46, 3518, Landerdale C. H.
 45, 3606, Agency, Old.
 44, 36, Twin Bluff.
 44, 3570, Scott C. H.
 43, 3654, Vicksburg.
 43, 3507, Alamucky.
 42, 3648, Montalbon.
 42, 31, Yeizer's Store.
 42, 14, Clinton.
 42, 3508, Kintabish.
 40, 3616, Bankston's Springs.
 39, 21, Raymond.
 38, 07, Jackson,
 37, 3597, Brandon.
 35, 3654, Warrenton.
 33, 63, Palmyra.
 32, 12, Auburn.
 25, 53, Hankinson's Ferry.
 24, 15, Line, Store.
 23, 46, Rocky Springs.
- 8122, 3522, Clarke, C. H.
 22, 17, Agency, English.
 21, 3663, Big Black.
 22, 51, Willow Springs.
 21, 3551, Tallahoma, Jasper.
 21, 46, Jasper C. H.
 20, 3663, Grand Gulf.
 20, 53, Grindstone Ford.
 20, 36, Amsterdam.
 19, 3570, Smith C. H.
 16, 3660, Harmon's Landing.
 15, 58, Port Gibson.
 14, 3594, Westville,
 14, 24, Pine Creek.
 13, 3670, Bayou Pierre.
 12, 71, Bruinsburg.
 11, 65, Oakland.
 11, 3516, Broken Bluff.
 10, 3639, Mount Washington.
 10, 08, Copiah Creek.
 09, 71, Rodney.
 09, 24, Gallatin.
 08, 87, Cole's Creek.
 07, 08, Georgetown, Copiah.
 03, 71, Cole's Creek forks.
 03, 3577, Jaynesville.
 03, 25, Higoowanee.
 01, 3668, Greenville.
 00, 36, White Sulpher Springs.
 8399, 3663, Fayette.
 99, 3516, Winchester.
 398, 3676, Stowor's Mound.
 98, 71, Uniontown.
 96, 79, Fairchilds.
 96, 69, Lewisville.
 95, 3572, Williamsburg.
 94, 3684, Pine Ridge.
 94, 63, Selertown.
 94, 3557, Ellisville.
 91, 76, Mount Carmel.
 89, 3677, Washington.
 88, 83, Natchez.
 88, 68, Lebanon Springs.
 87, 04, Monticello.
 86, 84, Bacon's Landing
 85, 88, Moore's Island.

8681, 3676, Prospect, Hill.
 30, 86, Hutchin's
 80, 56, Meadville.
 80, 34, Bogue Chitto.
 79, 3562, Monroe.
 78, 3685, St. Catherine's.
 74, 73, Sandy Creek.
 73, 76, Kingston.
 72, 82, Duncan's Ferry.
 72, 80, Second Creek.
 72, 39, Fairfield.
 70, 80, Cold Springs.
 69, 3691, Dead man's Bar.
 69, 3559, Augusta.
 67, 3685, Fletcher's Island.
 66, 3688; Gildart's Lake.
 66, 3607, China Grove.
 66, 3591, Columbia Springs.
 64, 90, Columbia.
 63, 3683, Pery's Creek.
 63, 20, Holmesville.
 62, 3695, Homochitto.
 8331, 3528, Leakeville.
 60, 3662, Centreville.
 60, 49, Liberty.
 59, 65, Mount Pleasant.
 58, 76, Woodville.
 58, 70, Whitestown.
 52, 92, Buffalo.
 52, 3591, Fordsville.
 50, 3691, Fort Adams.
 50, 84, Pinekneyville.
 50, 76, Sligo.
 49, 77, Rose Hill.
 16, 3526, Deer Island.
 12, 3516, Jackson C. H.
 07, 26, Old French Fort.
 05, 51, Shieldsborough.
 05, 46, St Louis, Bay.
 05, 20, Dog Island.
 04, 40, Chimney Point
 03, 04, Pascagola river.
 01, 37, Pass Christian.
 01, 23, Ship Island.
 8296, 3555, Pearlington.
 96, 25, Cat Island,

8295, 3563, Rigolets.
 92, 52, Pearl, mouth.

OBSERVATIONS &c.

The meridian which I have assumed begins in the Atlantic Ocean, between Europe and America, and the reason I prefer it is, that it will pass over no habitable part of the world, except, possibly some little islands, and therefore, in every country where my plan may be applied, the second numbers will constantly increase towards the west, and as constantly diminish towards the east, so that when the numbers of two places are set under each other, the eye will instantly perceive in what direction they lay from each other. For a similar reason, my first numbers begin at the south pole.

My plan can be advantageously applied in representing the positions of celestial bodies, which I may be disposed to do, when more at leisure.

When I have had occasion to use the latitudes and longitudes of other states than Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama, I have preferred those of the American Almanac for 1835.

To find the direction of one place from another.

Rule. Place the numbers of the two places under each other, then that which has its first, or left hand number greatest, is most northerly, and that which has its second number greatest, is most westerly.

Question. In what direction is Manchester from Natchez?

Answer. The numbers for the two places are as follows:

For Manchester,	8477, 36
For Natchez,	8388, 36

Now, by the rule, as 8477 is greater than 8388, Manchester is north of Natchez, and as 3683 is greater than 3633, Natchez is west of Manchester, or what is the same, Manchester is east of Natchez. Therefore Manchester is northeasterly from Natchez.

To determine whether it is more northerly than easterly, take the differences of the two first numbers, and two second numbers, thus:

8477,3633
8388,3683

89, 51

Now, if the first difference exceed the second, which is the fact in this case, the place is more northerly than easterly.

The first difference shows how many miles one place is north or south of another, and the second difference shows how many miles west or east.

To find what places are nearest, north or south of any named place.

Rule. Look for the number of the place, and find that number in the Index, the nearest second-number to that of your place, *above* the number of the latter, is that of the place nearest north, and the nearest *below* is that of the place nearest south.

Example. The number of Carrollton is 21,3595, and the nearest second number above I find to be 3597, which is that of Choctawhatchie, Choctawhatchie is therefore most due north of Carrollton. The difference of the first number is 13. Therefore Choctawhatchie is something more than 13 miles, on a direct line, from Carrollton.

To find what places are nearest, east or west, to any place named, find its number, and then look for it in the index, as before, then that place, whether above or

below, which has a greater second-number, is west, and that which has a less second-number is east. The number of Columbus is 8520, 3504, and 3506 is the nearest second number, which is that of Westport, and being greater, Westport is nearly 2 miles west of Columbus.

To find the shortest distance between two places.

1. Set their numbers under each other, and take the differences, then, if one difference be very small, compared with the other, a little more than the greatest difference will be the shortest distance sought.

EXAMPLE. The numbers of De Kalb are

8469,3488
Leake C. H. 8469,3570

Difference 0, 82

Therefore De Kalb is 82 miles, on a direct line; from Leake C. H.

Numbers of Shukanutcha Creek,

8450,3504

Madisonville. 8554,3602

Differences. 6, 98

Shortest distance is 98 miles.

2. When the differences are nearly equal, add 4 to every 10 of the greater number, to the same, which will be the shortest distance.

EXAMPLE. Numbers of Coffeeville,

8556,3605

Pittsburg, 8540,3588

Differences, 16, 18

Now 4 being added to every 10 of 18, will be about 7, which being added to the greater number, 18, makes 25 for the shortest distance between the two places.

3. In general, after multiplying your least difference by 10, and your greatest by

TOPOGRAPHY.

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one of the numbers in the first column below, so that the two products be nearly equal, add as you find stated.

9 add 33 for every 100, and 3 for every 10 of the greater number.

8 "	27 "	100 "	2 "	10
7 "	21 "	100 "	2 "	10
6 "	15 "	100 "	1 "	10
5 "	11 "	100 "	1 "	10
4 "	7 "	100 "	1 "	10
3 "	4 "	100		
2 "	2 "	100		

APPLICATION. Numbers of Buck Island and, 8620,3615
Falkland. 8571,3559

Differences. 49, 56

Now by multiplying the least difference, 49, by 10, or by adding an 0 after it, which is the same thing, I have 490, and by multiplying 49 by 9, I have 441, which is nearly equal to it. Therefore I add 16, because 56 is nearly half of 100, to the greater number, 56, which makes 72 miles for the shortest distance from Falkland to Buck Island in the Mississippi.

Numbers of Okachappo,	8615,3491
Woodville,	8358,3676

Differences, 257, 185

Here you will find that by adding 0 after the least difference, and multiplying the greater by 7, the two products will be comparatively equal; therefore add twice 21 for the 200, and 10 for the 50, and 2 for the 7, which makes 54 to be added to 250. The shortest distance between the two points is, consequently, 311 miles, and Okachappo having the highest first number, is to the north, and the lowest second number, is to the east of Woodville. The mouth of Okachappo, or

Bear Creek, is, in fact, our northern boundary point.

A very little practice will make the rules familiar. They give approximations only, which, with Mississippi, come very near the truth, but, as you go north (when the difference between the second numbers is considerable,) they err excess.

To find the distance between two places the roads.

RULE. Add 2 for every 10 of shortest distance, unless the road known to be very crooked, in which case add more, and if known to be very straight add little or nothing.

The shortest distance between Nauenez and Woodville you will find to be a small fraction over 30 miles;—2 to even 10 gives 6, which added to 30 makes 36 miles. The measured distance is 35 miles.

This rule will, in general, hold surprisingly true, particularly for distances under 50 miles.

To find how many miles a place is from the equator.

RULE. Your first number is the number of miles from the south pole, and you subtract 6210 from it you will get the distance from the equator.

The first number of Ishpombe is 8520; by subtracting 6210, you get 2310 miles for its distance from the equator,

If the first number were less than 6210, you would subtract it from 6210, and you would get the distance of the place corresponding to it, south of the equator.

To find the distance of a place from the north pole.

MISSISSIPPI.

RULE. Subtract its first number from 420, the difference is the proper answer. The first number of Vicksburg is 8443, which being subtracted from 12420, you have 3977 left, which is the distance from Vicksburg to the north pole.

Find the shortest distance from any place in Mississippi to another out of it, within the United States.

RULE. If the first number of the place out of the state is not greater than 25, the rule before given, with respect to cities in the state, will answer pretty well. For example:

The numbers of New Orleans are
8277,3598
Columbus, Mississippi, 3520,3504

Differences. 243, 94

Now by adding 0 after 94, you have 940, which is nearly equal to 4 times 233, or 17 to that number, which makes 312 for the shortest distance; to this add 2 for every 10, or 52, and you have 312 miles the distance by the road. It is, in fact, something less, which will generally be the case when the first difference is less than the second, or the roads pretty straight. This last is the true cause of this case.

When the first number of the place out of the state is greater than 8625, subtract one-tenth of the second difference from it for a new second difference, and then proceed as before.

Numbers of Washington City, 8893,2822
Jackson, Mississippi, 8438,3607

Differences. 455, 785

One-tenth 79

Corrected differences, 455, 706

Now by adding 0 after 455 you have 4550, and 6 times 706 will be near this number, therefore, by carrying 15 for every hundred of 706 to it, you get 821 miles for the shortest distance. Add 2 for every ten of this distance, to it, and you have 985 for the distance by the roads. The post office distance, which is not the most direct by the roads, is 1035.

3. In comparing places having their first numbers greater than 8625, and, of course, out of the state, subtract one-sixth from the second number, for a new second number, and then proceed as before.

Numbers of New York,	9019,2641
Philadelphia,	8967,2711

Differences,	52, 70
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One-sixth,	12
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Corrected differences,	52, 58
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Now 520 is nearly 9 times 58, therefore carry to 58 miles, at the rate of 33 per hundred, which is about 20, and makes the shortest distance 78 miles.

By carrying 2 for every 10 of this, to it, you get 94 for the distance by the road, which is about the computed distance, though there is a road between them a few miles shorter.

By applying the rule, you obtain the shortest distance from New York to Albany, 135; that by the roads, 162. From Boston to New York, shortest distance 187, by the roads, 224. The shortest road formerly traveled is, I believe, from 210 to 214 miles. The post office distance appears to be 206. According to what has elsewhere been observed, where roads are known to be pretty straight, (which must be judged of from the nature of the country, and improvements,) the rule will give too much.

TOPOGRAPHY.

Names of Counties.	Free 1835.	Whites. 1835.	Slaves 1835.	Positions of Counties.
Adams,	4,433		11,848	On the river.
Amite	3,133		4,400	East of Wilk.
Atala	300		50	East of Kolmes
Carroll	2,097		1,307	On Yazoo.
Choctaw	702		107	East of Carroll
Claiborne	5,369		7,451	Big Black & Miss.
Clarke	918		143	North of Wayne
Copiah	4,048		2,084	East of Jefferson
Covington	1,914		726	East of Lawrence
Franklin	2,415		2,207	East of Adams
Greene	1,098		404	South of Wayne
Hancock	1,400		553	On Pearl & Lakes.
Hinds	10,072		8,472	Central W. of Pearl
Holmes	4,128		3,195	North of Yazoo
Jackson	1,392		600	Southeasternmost.
Jasper	1,089		186	West of Clarke.
Jefferson	3,353		7,495	North of Adams.
Jones	825		103	West of Wayne
Kemper	1,512		440	North of Lauderdale
Lauderdale	504		70	North of Wayne
Lawrence	2,905		1,899	Both sides of Pearl
Leake	300		50	East of Madison
Lowndes	5,229		2,659	Both sides of Tomb
Madison	5,264		6,539	Central betw Pearl & Big
Marion	1,976		1,715	Both sides, of Pea
Monroe	4,328		1,331	Both sides of Tomb
Neshoba	2,061		48	North of Jasper
Noxubee	2,061		1,456	South of Lowndes.
Oktibbeha	1,091		228	West of Lowndes
Perry	1,281		595	East of Marion
Pike	4,128		1,824	West of Marion
Rankin	2,928		908	On Pearl, east of
Scott	405		46	East of Rankin
Simpson	2,696		789	On Pearl, east o
Smith	657		99	East of Simpson
Tallahatchee	2,097		995	On Tallahatchee
Warren	5,306		6,396	On Yazoo & Mis
Washington	1,190		4,443	North of Warren
Wayne	1,705		1,076	On both sides Chica
Wilkinson	4,466		9,374	Southwesternmost, on
Winston	300		50	East of Atala.
Yazoo	3,516		3,916	On Yazoo, N. E. of
Yalobusha	2,844		884	East of Tallahatchee
New Mississippi	5,000		1,000	Northern part of state

REMARKS.

the table of population is formed after due consideration of the United States census of 1830, that of the state in the Auditors Reports, and a variety of circumstances which have caused to increase our population at least 10 per cent in less than five years, I believe the actual population is greater than I have stated in the table. It exhibits the number of whites for Amite, Copi- reene, Jones, Lawrence and Perry he census of 1830, and a less number of blacks for Greene, Jones and Perry in the same census. The population of Mississippi, in 1840, will probably be all but little short of HALF A MILLION.

owing to the rapid increase of our numbers and wealth and the various points under which our state affairs present themselves to thousands, partly strangers to the order of things existed their immigration into us; but also to the principles of our government, as combined with practice, must be considered as a moral crisis—one that calls upon our citizens for the full exercise of their virtue and patriotism. Their good I doubt not, make them right it is impossible, at present, for the creation of power to be made by Arithmetic, and that there where be an unequal representation inequality, however, owing to legislation, will be great- should be. It was easy for the year of 1832 to attach the new some of the senatorial districts they bordered on. This added nothing to the senatorial districts of each district, while it enabled our new citizens to their constitutional right of suff- fecting state senators. As

things now are, the sixteen new counties will be without senatorial power in the next legislature—a state of affairs as repugnant to our constitution as any other. The only remedy to it would be, for those who brought it about to revise their acts of legislation, unless the new counties, are willing to forego their rights for the present, which our unfortunate position requires of them to do. They alone have a right to complain.

THE TENNESSEE LINE.

It will be recollect that some doubts were entertained a few years ago relative to our northern boundary. It was then supposed that, if properly run, it would embrace Memphis. Tennessee was invited to co-operate with Mississippi, which she was not inclined to do at the time, subsequently, when a gentleman appointed by Gov. Brandon, had determined the 35th degree of north latitude to be a few miles south of our old line, and Tennessee was likely to gain land, she ran a line accordingly, and our executive was notified of it, but never concurred in its correctness. Governor Carroll of Tennessee then strangely assumed that about 300 square miles previously included in Mississippi, were the property of Tennessee. Strangely I say, because the two States have never mutually agreed to it. Every thing has been *ex parte*. We ought therefore to insist on our boundary as it was, until Tennessee will concur with us in the choice of a suitable person to determine the 35th degree of north latitude. The manner in which our commissioner executed his duty has never been made known to the people, as it should have been, so that competent persons might detect errors, if any in his mode of proceeding. That there was error, I have but little doubt, when I reflect that the Editor of the A-

merican Almanac of 1835 has determined for actual observation, that even the latitude of Boston is 3 miles less than that assigned by preceding able observers; that of Baltimore, 5 miles less; that of Salem 3 less; and that of Halifax, N. S. has been recently determined to be 5 less than formerly. The same observer, I think, would place our line nearer Memphis than it ever was, and for one, I should not object to both states selecting that able individual to determine the position of the 35th degree of North Latitude. Had our commissioner, with his same instruments, determined the 31st degree of North Latitude, and the Northern boundary of Tennessee in 36° 30', and found *them* correct, it would be proper for us to acquiesce in his results, which we never did, and *ought not to*, until we have some means of ascertaining that he went the right way to work. Let us insist upon what we have a right to, and ask no more. The sooner our boundary is definitively settled, the better.

SKETCH OF THE COUNTIES.

Adams, is bounded on the north by Jefferson; east by the first Basis Meridian, east of the Mississippi which runs northward and southward in longitude 14 deg. 7 m. west of Washington, or 91 deg. 9 m. west of Greenwich, and separates it from the county of Franklin; south by Homochitto, a river 300 miles long, which rises in Copiah, and separates it from Wilkinson; and west by the Mississippi river, which divides it from part of Louisiana. It was first settled by the French, in 1716. who expelled the Natchez Indians from it in the year 1731. In 1763, it passed into the hands of the English, together with a great portion of what is now the State of Mississippi, which the Spaniards possessed themselves of in

1779, and restored to the Americans in 1797. On the second day of April, 1799, Adams county was constituted by proclamation of Gov. Sargent, and is the oldest in Mississippi.

Amitz, has Franklin on the north; Pike east; part of Louisiana south, and Wilkinson west, which it borders in longitude 15 deg. 3 m., northward to Foster creek, a branch of the Homochitto. It was taken from Wilkinson and erected into a county, on the 24th of February, 1809.

Atala, a new county, has Choctaw north; Winston east; Leake south; and Holmes west.

Carroll, a rapidly populating new county, has Tallahatchee and Yalobusha north; Choctaw east; Holmes south; and Washington west.

Choctaw, a new county, has Yalobusha and the Chicasaw nation on the north; Oktibbeha east; Atala and Winston south; and Carroll west.

Claiborne, has Warren on the north; Hinds and Copiah east; Jefferson south and the river Mississippi on the west. From Warren it is partly separated by the Big Black, a river 500 miles long, and partly by a line running nearly from east to west, on the right bank of the river, to a point nearly opposite Big Black, islands cutting off a tongue of land formed by the Bogasho creek, the Big Black and the Mississippi. It was erected into a county, January 27th. 1802.

Clarke, a new county, has Lauderdale north; Alabama east; Wayne south; and Jasper west.

Copiah, has Hinds on the north; Pea river east, which separates it from Simpson; Lawrence and Franklin, south, and Jefferson and Claiborne on the west. It was erected into a county on the 21st January, 1823.

Covington, has Smith north; Jones east

Marion and Perry south; and Lawrence on the west, containing not less than 648 square miles. It was erected into a county February 5th 1819.

Franklin, is bounded on the north by Jefferson and Copiah; east, by Lawrence; south, by Amite; west by Adams. It was erected in to a county on December 31st, 1809.

Greene, on the east side of Pearl river, has Wayne and Jones on the north; Alabama east; Jackson and Hancock south; and Perry west. It was erected into a county, December 6th, 1811.

Hancock, South of the 31st degree of orth latitude, has Marion, Perry and Greene on the north; Jackson east; Lake Borgne south, and the east bank of Pearl river west, which separates it from Louisiana. The French had settlements within its limits, in 1699. It was erected into a county, December 18th, 1812.

Hinds, has Madison north; Big Black northwest, which separates it from Yazoo and Warren; Claiborne west; Copiah south, and Pearl river east which separates it from Rankin county. In 1820, it elongated to the Indians, and contained but few white people. It now contains more than any other county. It was formed on the 9th of February 1821, and, necessitate rei, permitted to send a representative to the Legislature, contrary to the provisions of the Constitution.

Holmes, a new county, having the late Choctaw country north and east, the Yazoo river, which separates it from Washington, northwest, and Madison southeast, on which it divided by the Big Black river. It was formed, partly from Yazoo, and partly from the Choctaw country, February 19th, 1833.

Jackson, has Green on the north; Hancock west; the Gulf of Mexico south and Alabama east. It was earlier settled than any other part of the state, and became a county December 18th 1812.

Jasper. a new county, has Nashoba north; Clarke east, Jones south, and Smith west.

Jefferson, has Claiborne on the north; the Mississippi river west; Adams and part of Franklin south, and Copiah east. It was formerly called Pickering, and received its present name January 22nd 1802.

Jones, has Jasper north, Covington west, Perry south, and Wayne east.

Kemper. A new county, has Noxubbee and a corner of Winston north, Alabama, east; Lauderdale south, and Nashoba west.

Lauderdale, A new county, has Kemper north; Alabama east, Clarke south, and Nashoba west.

Lawrence, A county on both side of Pearl river, having Copiah and Simpson north; Franklin west; Pike and Marion south, and Covington on the east. It was erected into a county, December 22d 1814.

Leake, A new county, has Atala north, Nashoba east; Scott south, and Madison west.

Lowndes, Formed February 9th 1831 has Monroe north, Alabama east; Noxubee south, and Oktibbeha west.

Madison, Separated from Holmes and Yazoo by the Big Black; having Hinds south; divided from Rankin by the Pearl, and bounded on the east by Leake. Formed January 29th 1828.

Marion, Formed December 9th 1811, is on both sides of Pearl river; has Lawrence north; Pike on the west; part of Louisiana and Hancock south; Jackson and part of Greene east.

Monroe, On both sides of the Tombigbee, considered a part of Alabama till 1821, when it became a county of Mississippi; has a temporary boundary north and west; Alabama east, and Lowndes south.

Nashoba, The largest of the new coun-

ties, has Winston north; Kemper and Lauderdale east; Jasper south, and Leake and Scott west.

Noxubbee, A new county, has Lowndes and a corner of Oktibbeha north; Alabama east; Kemper south, and Winston west.

Oktibbeha, A new county, has the Chickasaw nation north; Lowndes east; Winston and a corner of Noxubbee south, and Choctaw west.

Perry, Has Covington and Jones north; Marion west Hancock and Jackson south, and Greene east.

Pike, Formed December 8th 1811; has Lawrence on the north, Amite west; La. south, and Marion east.

Rankin, formed Feb. 4th 1828, has Madison north; Scott east, Simpson south, and the Pearl west, which separates it from Madison and Hinds.

Scott, a new county, has Leake north; Nashoba east; Smith south, and Rankin west.

Simpson, formed Jan. 23d, 1824, has Rankin north; Smith east; part of Lawrence and Covington south; and the Pearl west, which separates it from Copiah.

Smith, a new county, has Scott north; Jasper east; Covington south, and Simpson west.

Tallahatchee, a new county, has New Mississippi north; Yalobusha east; Carroll south; and Washington west. It is already an important county for population and wealth.

Warren, formed December 22d 1809; has Washington county and part of Yazoo river north; the Mississippi river west; Claiborne South, and is separated from Hinds by Big Black. Yazoo county bounds it a few miles on the northeast.

Washington, formed in 1828, has a temporary boundary north, Tallahatchee and Carroll east; the Yazoo southeast; Warren south, and the Mississippi west.

Wayne, formed Dec. 21st, 1809 has Clarke, north; Alabama east; Greene and Perry, south, and Jones west.

Wilkinson, has Adams on the north; the Mississippi west, Louisiana south, and Amite east. It was separated from Adams, and erected into a county on January 30th 1802.

Winston, a new county, has Choctaw and Oktibbeha north; Noxubbee east; Nashoba south, and Atala west.

Yalobusha, an important new county, has New Mississippi north and east; Carroll and part of Choctaw south; and Tallahatchee west.

Yazoo, is separated from the county of Washington by Yazoo river; from Madison by the Big Black; has Holmes northeast, and Warren southwest. It was formed Jan. 21st 1823.

DE SOTO'S EXPEDITION.

(From the Manuscript of Henry Vose.)

In 1537, Hernan de Soto was invested by Charles I. of Spain, with the government of Santiago de Cuba, with permission to prosecute the discovery and subjugation of Florida. He had been one of the companions of Pizarro, and had amassed with him, in Peru, a considerable fortune. He was, perhaps, ambitious of finding some new empire to subdue, and of transmitting his name to future ages as one of the heroic subjugators of the New World. But, whatever may have been his views, it appears to be quite certain that he equipped a considerable army for an expedition into Florida. It consisted of not less than 900 foot and 350 horse. With these he set sail from Havana, on the 22d of May, new style, in the year 1538, and, about

the middle of June, landed in Tampabay, then called the bay of Espiritu Santo, or Holy Ghost. The following sketch of his adventures, which I have materially corrected from the narration of Garcilaso de Vega, and the versions of others, may be considered as tolerably true.

Having landed his men, De Soto sent back his large vessels, and took up his line of march for the north, where he understood there were mines. At the very outset, the natives seemed to dispute every inch of the way; for a part of his men were attacked and suffered considerable loss. The first Indian village that he reached was about 6 miles from the shore, and there he spent some days, until he was well prepared for his expedition into the interior. At this time, there were many villages in the Florida country; some of which were better known by the names of their respective chiefs than by any other appellatives. Very few of these contained more than from 3 to 5 hundred souls. They are properly the *okla* of the Choctaws. Here were larger districts, or tribal territories embracing several of these *okla*. Two of them were under the government of *Oho-yomingos*, or female chiefs.

When Hernan de Soto, whom some also call Domingo, had penetrated into the interior, to the distance of 100 miles, he was well received, and entertained with true Indian hospitality; being abundantly supplied with *Tonchi* (corn,) and *Asi-nippi*, (venison.) An Indian queen made him considerable presents, said to have consisted of Pearls of immense value, which do not, unfortunately for the truth of the narration, happen to be found in this country. To this report, however, Pearl river—the *Nunniwoiya* of the Choctaws owes its name, which it will long retain as a memento of the love of the marvelous that gave it.

Several of the chiefs, or *mingos* opposed the passage of the Spaniards through the country, but without effect against superior arms. Some of these, however, fell into the hands of the Indians, who battered them so as to make them flat, and converted them into *bushpo*, or knives, which they might have done in those days; for the barrels of the muskets of the 16th century were quite thin. De Soto is said to have had some pieces of cannon with him, which is very doubtful, except they were on board of his vessels.

At length De Soto reached the Apalachi country to the mountains of which he sent a detachment of men, who returned, bringing specimens of metals which were there to be found, of which gold was the most prominent. They represented the mountains, where gold was to be found, as inaccessible and inhospitable, and besides, that the natives would probably harass them constantly, so that it would not be worth while for De Soto to proceed thither.

Whether influenced by these reports or not, it is certain that De Soto penetrated no further in that direction. He returned towards the place of departure, taking *Aute* in his way, from which a part of his men proceeded to a place called *Ochesi* by the natives, which is the same as the Choctaw *Ochuns*, snipes, which to this day, abound there, and then occasioned its name. It is the place called Panzacola by the Spaniards, which, with some little alteration, signifies in Choctaw, the *Scalping people*.

De Soto now sent information to Cuba of the result of his expedition, and collecting his men together at Aute, determined upon wintering there. Early in the spring of 1539, he resumed his march, at first, in a northwesterly direction; passing on the eastern confines of the present state of Alabama, he marched for some time northerly, and then

northwesterly through the country of the Tsallakhees, or Cherokees, at that time a warlike nation, almost as populous as at the present day. De Soto's progress was bounded by the Tennessee river on the north,—though, many years ago, Mr. Noah Webster, laboring under an error which he subsequently acknowledged with great candor, not only carried our adventurer beyond the Ohio, but even to Kaskaskia, on the river Oco, and made some of his men play a considerable part in the erection of the fortifications of Ohio.

De Soto, on his return, proceeded southerly to Mobile, or Mabilla, passing through the tribes of Tushka Lusa, or Black Warriors, and Alabama,—neither of which then mustered 500 warriors. The Indians at Mobile had, it seems, a sort of wooden fort to defend themselves in. They were attacked by De Soto, and after suffering considerable loss, were compelled to give way. The veridical Garcilaso de la Vega reckons that the Mobilians lost, in defense of their town, at least 11,000 men! This is a greater number than the Choctaws had in the height of their power, or any other tribe north of Mexico is known to have been able to bring into the field. Such tales serve to weaken our belief in the historians of the overthrow of the empire of Anahuac. Garcilaso further says that more than one thousand women were burnt to death in one house!!!

When De Soto had subdued the Mobilians, he proceeded northwardly towards the Chickasaws, in whose country he spent the winter of 1540. In January, of the last named year, a party of these Indians attacked him in the night, by torch light,—for it was towards the end of the month, according to the new style, and about the time of the new moon. The Chickasaws darted arrows, with lighted pine knots at the end, upon the huts of the Spaniards, and thus set

some of them on fire—more particularly those used for the Spanish horses, of which 50 were consumed. The Spaniards lost about 40 men by this attack.

After the attack of the Chickasaws, De Soto moved his camp to a spot considered more eligible, at the distance of 3 or 4 miles. Still he continued to be harassed by the Chickasaws, and the number of his men was soon considerably diminished by the arrows of the enemy, or by being taken prisoners, or by desertion.

At length, at the beginning of April, 1540, Hernan de Soto reached the mighty Mississippi, which some of his party named the Rio Grande, or Grand River. The natives appear to have called it *Hushika-oka*, or *Huski-oka*, the *water of the sun*, which the Spaniards corrupted into *Cicuaga*, and have handed down in their account of the expedition.

It is stated that De Soto first discovered the Mississippi at the lower bluffs, near Memphis and a few miles north of the boundary of the present state of Mississippi. These, indeed, are the only high lands on the left bank of the river till you reach those of the Walnut Hills at Vickburg, so that, if De Soto saw the Mississippi in either April or May when the river overflows its banks, it must have been at some point below the mouth of the Yazoo, if not near Memphis. But perhaps, after all, the Mississippi then washed the high lands of our present counties of Tallahatchee and Carroll, and that, at some point in one of them De Soto first saw the Cicuaga, or Rio Grande!

Leaving speculation alone for the present, it may be generally stated that De Soto descended the Mississippi on rafts that he caused to be constructed, visiting several places on both sides of the river, one of which was called either Guacoya, or Guazoya. If the latter, it was probably a village of the Wasawsee, or

Osages.

It was not till 1541, that De Soto, with his men, reached a position near, or opposite the mouth of Red River. Meanwhile, he is represented to have been very actively engaged, either in exploring the country, or fighting the natives. At one time, it is said, he took the queen of Tallahatchee prisoner, who probably dwelt on the banks of the Tallahatchee. She afterwards succeeded in escaping from the Spaniards, and stirred up an opposition against them.

About the month of June, De Soto sickened, and, perceiving his end approaching, appointed his Lieutenant, Don Lewis Moseoso de Alvarado, to succeed him in command of the forces remaining. He died about the tenth of July, new style, in the 42d year of his age. His remains were sunk near the left bank of the Mississippi, and not far from the mouth of Red River, in latitude 31° north. His coffin was filled with bullets, and the reason assigned for its being sunk was, that the Indians might neither know of his death, nor be able to find the body, if that knowledge could not be concealed from them. Thus perished a man who had undertaken one of the most remarkable expeditions recorded in the annals of the Western World, of which he had been chiefly impelled by the delusive hope of discovering means to roll in boundless wealth, and live through endless time.

The celebrated Capt. John Smith, whose name is so intimately associated with the history of Virginia, makes mention of De Soto's travels about 70 years subsequent to his death, and does not seem to doubt the version that had met his eye. For this and other reasons, much reliance is to be placed upon the certainty of De Soto's having traversed the country bordering on the Mississippi; but most of the adventures ascribed to

him wear an air entirely too fabulous to entitle them to belief. His continued marches, to and fro, appear to be not a little quixotical; yet his disappointed expectations may be assigned as the cause why he tarried in the vain hope of discovering the mines, and subduing the nations which existed only in his disordered fancy. If he was influenced, principally, in his expedition, by the ambition of transmitting his name to after ages, his ambition will prove to be gratified; for, whilst the tide of the Mississippi, and the tide of Time shall roll downwards, the name and fame of Hernan de Soto will co-exist with them.

After the death of De Soto, Moscoso conceived the idea of reaching some of the inhabited parts of Mexico by land, and with this view ascended Red River at a low stage of its waters. He penetrated into part of the present province of Texas, where he was surprized to find cattle, by the natives called *waka* [pronounced walker] which, with the exception of the final vowel, is the name they still bear amongst the Choctaws, Chisasaws, Creeks, Seminoles and other tribes, and doubtless derived from the Spanish *vaca*, signifying a cow in that language; for these tribes have the sound of our *v*. In consequence of seeing cattle amongst them, Moscoso called these aborigines the *vacueros*, or cow keepers. He did not proceed much further, but concluded it best to descend the Red River and the Mississippi and seek Mexico by water.

Having arrived at the mouth of Red River, Moscoso is represented to have taken up his winter quarters near there, and during the month of January following, of the year 1542, to have set his carpenters to work in order to fabricate suitable vessels for his contemplated voyage. Against him, whilst his work was progressing, the neighboring chiefs or

Mingos leagued themselves, for fear, it is said, that, if he returned to the country whence he came, he would cause others to come and drive them from their domains. There are some evidences of hard fighting, at one time or other, in that neighborhood, and particularly within 3 or 4 miles of Fort Adams, but, whether these evidences justly refer to contests between the natives and Moscoso, is somewhat problematical. The finding of some articles belonging to the Spaniards, in the vicinity of the place, would set this matter to rights, and do away with a deal of incredulity.

On the 4th day of July, 1542, Moscoso and his men were prepared to depart from their winter quarters, and having got on board their vessels, commenced descending the river. They had, perhaps, reached a point as low down as Baton Rouge when they were attacked by the natives and suffered considerable loss; for they were nearly upon an equality with the Spaniards who were now without powder. Besides, the army of De Soto had dwindled down to less than 300, owing to the contests they had been engaged in, to disease, and desertion. His horses were all gone through famine, slaughter or theft, and, in short, Moscoso, his successor had become almost as completely derived of all the distinctions between civilized and savage life, as though he had never known them.

On the 11th of July, new style, the Spaniards reached the sea of Mexico, and after running great risks, were fortunate enough to reach a port called Pánuco, distant 180 miles from the city of Mexico, to which they found easy access. Another account, however, represents that the shattered remnants of De Soto's troops arrived at Cuba. This perhaps ought only to be considered as referring to the vessels he sent back thither after he had landed in Florida, or to the re-

turn of the wonderers by way of Mexico; upon the whole, we may regret that the whole expedition is involved in so much doubt and uncertainty—much greater than what is evident from these pages; for nearly every thing that wore the air of table was rejected in order not to insult the judgment of a discerning age.

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To many others I have acknowledgments to make, when I publish my contemplated work on Mississippi, which I defer doing until after the next session of the Legislature, at which, I presume, New Mississippi will be laid off into counties. Meanwhile, I would be glad to receive further information relative to the state.

HENRY VOSE.

TYPOGRAPHICAL MAP OF MISSISSIPPI.

This ° mark indicates the river, and all others the situations of the nearest named places.









